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General Assembly

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Request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Letter dated 3 October 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request, pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum on the nature and description of the Organization is annexed to the present letter.

I have the honour to further request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Abdullatif H. **Sallam**
Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-53307 (E) 161007 171007

Annex

Explanatory memorandum

[Original: Arabic]

Article 52 of the Charter of the United Nations encourages the establishment of regional arrangements when their goals and activities are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and they deal with matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security. As paragraph 1 of the Article states: "Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations."

The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), in accordance with its Charter, has an independent international legal personality. It is an intergovernmental organization with multiple competencies founded by the Governments of six States: the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar and the State of Kuwait, all of which are States Members of the United Nations. They are also members of such other international organizations as the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and some are among the founding Members of the United Nations.

In common with the other States Members of the United Nations, the GCC States strive to achieve the goals for which the Organization was established, above all the maintenance of international security and peace. Over the past two decades, they have endeavoured, through peaceful means and in cooperation with other international organizations and parties, to settle disputes that have broken out in the region. Their efforts having culminated in success, they are determined to pursue that approach in order to serve the goals of the family of nations.

The GCC Secretariat has deposited and registered a copy of the GCC Charter with the United Nations pursuant to the decision adopted by its Ministerial Council at its fourth session, held in Ta'if from 20 to 21 Ramadhan AH. 1402 (11 to 12 July AD. 1982), in accordance with the provisions of article 22 of its Charter.

On the basis of the foregoing, the GCC Secretariat hopes that its request to open a GCC office to the United Nations and its application for observer status will meet with the approval of the competent United Nations authorities, with a view to the achievement of greater joint cooperation.

Enclosure I

Letter dated 11 September 2007 from the Secretary-General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf addressed to the Secretary-General

On the basis of Article 52, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, which states that: "Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations",

And out of the desire of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) to place its relationship with the United Nations on an institutional footing that serves the lofty purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the goals articulated in the GCC Charter, which will in turn serve the causes of international peace and prosperity, stimulate constructive dialogue among nations and civilizations and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are key priorities in the work of the United Nations,

It gives me pleasure to convey to you the desire of the GCC to open a representative office and be granted observer status at the United Nations insofar as the GCC Ministerial Council (of Ministers for Foreign Affairs), at its one-hundred-and-second session, held on 5 March 2007 in Riyadh, expressed the view that the opening of a GCC representative office to the United Nations and the grant of observer status would be in keeping with the goals of the United Nations and the causes with which it is concerned.

I should like to point out that the GCC Secretariat deposited and registered a copy of the GCC Charter with the United Nations on 20 August 1986. It gives me pleasure to transmit herewith an explanatory memorandum concerning the request to open a representative office and the application for observer status at the United Nations.

I hope that our request will meet with your support and be referred to the relevant committee.

Abdul Rahman bin Hamad **Al-Attiyah**
Secretary-General
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Enclosure II

The Secretary-General of the United Nations has the honour to transmit herewith, in accordance with article 7 of the General Assembly regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, one certificate of registration pertaining to international agreements registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

28 August 1986

Enclosure III

UNITED NATIONS - ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES

CERTIFICATE of REGISTRATION No. 29203 CERTIFICAT d'ENREGISTREMENT

The SECRETARY-GENERAL of the UNITED NATIONS

hereby certifies that the following international agreement has been registered with the Secretariat, in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations:

No. 21244. BAHRAIN, KUWAIT, OMAN, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA AND UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:

Charter of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (with Rules of procedures of the Supreme Council, of the Ministerial Council and of the Commission for Settlement of Disputes). Concluded at Abu Dhabi on 25 May 1981

Registered by the Secretary-General of the Co-operation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, acting on behalf of the Parties, on 20 September 1982.

Done at New York on 20 August 1986

For the SECRETARY-GENERAL

Le SECRETAIRE GENERAL de l'ORGANISATION des NATIONS UNIES

certifié par la présente que l'accord international indiqué ci-après a été enregistré au Secrétariat, conformément à l'Article 102 de la Charte des Nations Unies :

No. 21244. ARABIE SAOUDITE, BAHREIN, EMIRATS ARABES UNIS, KOWEIT, OMAN ET QATAR :

Charte du Conseil de coopération pour les Etats arabes du Golfe (avec Règlement intérieur du Conseil suprême, du Conseil ministériel et de la Commission pour le Règlement des différends). Conclue à Abou Dhabi le 25 mai 1981

Enregistré par le Secrétaire général du Conseil de coopération pour les Etats arabes du Golfe Persique, agissant au nom des Parties, le 20 septembre 1982.

Fait à New York le 20 août 1986

Pour le SECRETAIRE GENERAL